

of the American Relief Association for a few minutes this morning. He sent word by his secretary that no announcement of a decision need be expected from him to-day. So far as could be learned he had made no engagements for a further telephone conference with Mr. Harding.

Mr. Hoover left the building without being intercepted by reporters. It was said he had "gone uptown for lunch." Mr. Baker disappeared from the offices at about the same time and it was understood that Mr. Hoover was to discuss his decision with close friends at lunch and during the afternoon.

After his talk with Mr. Harding, Hoover said:

"Senator Harding and I have had a conversation over the telephone as to my accepting a post in the Cabinet. Naturally, these are matters requiring consideration and equally they are not matters for me to discuss now."

The conversation with Harding took place over a telephone from the house of a friend of Hoover's in this city. It lasted for about fifteen minutes and only the two men chiefly concerned knew anything of the details. Immediately after the conversation Mr. Hoover hurried away to a gala performance of "Carmen" for the benefit of the European Relief Council, of which he is chairman. He was accompanied by J. P. Morgan and George Barr Baker.

Two things are said to stand in the way of an immediate acceptance of the proffered post by the Californian. One is the bitter opposition of a group of Senators to his appointment, including Knox and Penrose, and the other is the dislike felt by Hoover for the red tape methods which have been in vogue in the department over which he is asked to preside.

The statement is made that in anticipation of the opposition of Knox and Penrose, Harry L. Daugherty, who has been chosen for Attorney General, is hastening North to-day from St. Augustine, Fla., to confer with the Senators, and that an offer of the Secretaryship of the Treasury has not been definitely made to Andrew W. Mellon, the Pittsburgh banker. This position is said to have been held open for trading purposes. It is believed here, however, that an understanding will be reached and that both Mellon and Hoover will be in the Cabinet.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., Feb. 23 (Associated Press).—With only a few formalities remaining to finally close up the selection of his Cabinet, President-elect Harding gave his attention to-day to other immediate appointments and to the preparation of his inaugural address.

Formal invitations and acceptance have not yet been exchanged in regard to three of the ten places. These are Edwin Denby of Michigan; Herbert Hoover of California; and James J. Davis of Pennsylvania, slated respectively for the portfolios of Navy, Commerce and Labor.

There have been published reports that Mr. Hoover might decline, but they manifestly are not credited by Mr. Harding and his advisers.

Another selection understood to have been decided on is that of George B. Christian, Jr., to be Secretary to the President. Mr. Christian has been Mr. Harding's private secretary since he entered the Senate six years ago.

Mr. Christian is forty-seven years old and has been a neighbor of the Hardings in Marion for years. He is a graduate of Pennsylvania Military College with the degree of civil engineer, and before he became secretary to Mr. Harding was general manager of a Marion time and stone company. He has a wife, official acquaintance gained during his six years in the national capital and in the course of his confidential relations with Mr. Harding during the 1920 campaign.

\$31,006,694 ADDED TO ARMY BILL BY SENATE COMMITTEE

As Reported Out Carries \$362,214,806—Nearly \$5,000,000 More for National Guard

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The Army Appropriation Bill, carrying \$31,006,694 more than allowed by the House, was reported to the Senate to-day by the Military Affairs Committee. The only considerable decrease in any House item was \$1,250,000 for the Ordnance Bureau.

As passed by the House, the Army Bill carried a total appropriation of \$331,208,312. The Senate Committee raised the figure to \$362,214,806. The item for pay of the army was increased \$17,046,841 over the House amount of \$144,746,966. The Senate figure provides for 141,400 officers and 375,000 men, the personnel established in the bill passed over the President's veto. Several items of pay were overlooked by the House, members of the Senate Committee said to-day.

Appropriation for the Air Service was raised from \$12,330,000 to \$25,890,000. This sum, according to Senator Wadsworth, Chairman of the Military Committee, will permit the army to construct new types of planes which are now being projected.

An increase of \$1,765,000 was made in the appropriation for the National Guard. This body, according to the Senate Committee, would have virtually passed from existence under the House appropriation.

KEEP WELL. Taking Father John's Medicine—pure food, no dangerous drugs—helps.

DANGER IN TAKING GERMAN BONDS FROM BELGIUM

Might Establish Precedent That Would Saddle Allied Debt on United States.

NO ACTION JUST NOW.

Congress Will Wait to See What German Bonds Are Really Worth.

By David Lawrence. (Special Correspondent of The Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 (Copyright, 1921).—Congress will not act at this time on President Wilson's message submitting the proposal that the United States consider the acceptance of German reparations bonds in exchange for Belgium's debt to America of \$171,780,000. Nor does the Executive expect any action until America is convinced that the German reparations bonds are worth something.

This brings up the entire question of whether the recent decision of the Allied Premiers to saddle Germany with an enormous debt is wise and whether America will accept German reparations bonds as payment for anything in the future.

The United States refrained from participating in the Allied council at which the reparations settlement was agreed upon and has even hesitated to express approval or disapproval afterwards lest the present Administration be drawn into a discussion of reparations questions which might be embarrassing to the Harding Administration.

MIGHT ESTABLISH A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT.

The presentation to Congress of the proposal that German reparations bonds be used in exchange for Belgium's war indebtedness to the United States involves a precedent of considerable importance.

If America accepts German bonds as a payment for even so small a debt, relatively speaking, as \$171,780,000, would it be consistent for the United States to refuse to accept German reparations bonds as payment for the entire Allied war debt? That is the question which members of Congress are asking.

The British and French point out that they would be even more generous than the United States, for England and France stand ready to accept German reparations bonds amounting to £174,000,000, or about \$800,000,000, which is the combined debt of Belgium to France and Britain.

If the British and French think the German reparations bonds will be worth \$800,000,000 why can't the United States, it is argued, accept their judgment? But the answer given here is that England and France would face much better in the end, even if German reparations bonds were accepted to the amount of \$800,000,000, because the transfer from the Allies of the entire indebtedness to the United States to the backs of the Germans would relieve Great Britain and France of the greater part of their financial burdens to-day.

Even such a course is not considered outside the range of possibility if the German reparations bonds can be made to pay. But America has stayed out of the League of Nations and has thus far given no indication that she wants to participate in the enforcement of the terms of the Peace Treaty of Versailles or in the collection of the war indemnity from Germany. Europe, of course, would like America to accept German reparations bonds because it would make the United States see more clearly the necessity of making Germany pay and would bring America closer to European political affairs.

REPORTED VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ADVISERS.

American financiers and the men who have been advising the United States Government ever since the Paris conference, insist that it is the Allies and not Germany who must be regulated, for in the mad scramble to get money out of Germany the Allies thus far have adopted a policy of strangulation which, from the American viewpoint, is bad business for the world, irrespective of whether it affects the value of German reparations bonds.

America's position as expressed here is that Germany must be given a chance to get back on her feet and that if the Allies persist in the policy of draining Germany of her capital and levying an export tax, for instance, that will interfere seriously with German trade opportunities, the Allies may as well abandon any hope that America will believe the German reparations bonds are worth the paper on which they are written.

There is substantially no difference of opinion on the question between Republicans and Democrats here. It is an economic and not a partisan question. President Wilson promised to submit the matter to Congress when he was in Paris. He could not refuse to do so without being discourteous to Belgium. But Mr. Wilson's own message to Congress contains significant phrases which indicate that he does not believe the present, at any rate, a favorable moment for the acceptance by Congress of the proposition he is submitting.

Johnson, Hylan and O'Brien Take Up Traction Problem in Mayor's Office



LESLIE-JUDGE CO. FAILS; LIABILITIES PUT AT \$2,210,000

Assets \$420,000; Collapse Ascribed to High Cost of Paper.

The Leslie-Judge Company of No. 225 Fifth Avenue, one of the best-known publishing houses in this country, which issued Leslie's Weekly, Judge, Film Fun and various books which it sold on the installment plan, went into the hands of a receiver to-day. It is alleged to have been admitted by an official of the company that the organization is "irretrievably insolvent." Its liabilities, as set forth, total \$2,210,000, with assets of \$420,000.

The difficulties of the company are alleged to be caused by the poor health of John A. Schleicher, the President, and the high cost of paper. In 1919 the losses of the organization are stated to have been \$150,000 and in 1920, \$300,000.

The receiver, appointed to-day by Judge Martin T. Manion of the Federal District Court, is Thomas B. Felder, an attorney of No. 14 Wall Street. The appointment was made on a petition in involuntary bankruptcy filed by Saul S. Myers in behalf of William Green, printer and bookbinder, No. 627 West 43d Street, who claims a debt of \$500,000; Edward McDonnell, whose claim is \$25,000; and Douglas H. Cooke, \$300.

In the petition it is set forth that Green holds a promissory note of the company's for \$100,000, made payable to the City Real Estate Company, and on which he advanced this amount to the realty organization. In July last he asked the Leslie-Judge Company to meet the note, but it defaulted.

In 1909 the company issued \$700,000 first mortgage bonds, in payment for which it executed a mortgage to the Title Guarantee and Trust Company as trustee. Green alleges he took \$642,700 of these bonds and also bought \$30 of a total of 490 shares of capital stock. In addition he advanced the aforementioned \$100,000 on a promissory note.

At the time of the issue of the bonds, John A. Schleicher was conducting the affairs of the Leslie-Judge Company. The petition states that he is ill at present and probably will not be able to return to the business which he turned over to his sons, Bruben P., Acting President, and George, Secretary.

The liabilities of the company include \$400,000 to the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, \$120,000 to the Charles Schweitzer Press, \$120,000 to Doubleday, Page & Co., \$50,000 in miscellaneous accounts and \$570,000 to book subscribers. The assets claimed are: cash, \$60,000; material on hand, \$300,000; and office furniture, \$50,000.

WHAT IS DOING TO-DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE.

Both Military and Naval Committees completed Army and Navy Appropriation Bills.

Tariff conferees continued consideration of Emergency Tariff Bill.

HOUSE.

Representatives of eight women's organizations appear before Rules Committee to urge passage of Sheppard-Towner Maternity Bill.

Interstate Commerce Sub-Committee continues hearings on Amendments to War Risk Insurance Law.

ASSEMBLY BLOCKS MOVE TO SIDETRACK TRANSIT MEASURE

Motion to Transfer Miller's Bill to Railroad Committee Defeated 92-40.

(Special Correspondent of The Evening World.)

ALBANY, Feb. 23.—The Assembly to-day defeated an attempt to get the Miller-transit measure out of the Judiciary Committee and have it transferred to the Committee on Railroads, where eight of the thirteen members hail from Greater New York. Fourteen Republicans voted with the Democrats and Socialists.

Assemblyman Peter Hamill made a motion to discharge the Judiciary Committee from further consideration of the measure, which was defeated by a vote of 92 to 40. Considerable oratory was indulged in, not so much on the merits or demerits of the bill as on the propriety of the motion.

The fourteen Republicans voting for the motion were Baum, Carroll, Caulfield, Crews, Ferriols, Gempier, Giaccone, Halpern, Hawkins, Lieberman, Mullen, Nichols, Reiss and Wallace.

Had the measure ever been referred to the committee on railroads, it would probably have remained there for the rest of the session.

Gov. Miller this morning said that he was in favor of the amendment to the traction bill, which would nullify the right of the transit commission to increase fares, pending the termination of the investigation of the New York trolley situation. The amendment was added yesterday by Senator Knight and Assembly Leader Adair. The Governor said:

"The original bill provided that any increase should be made upon such terms, conditions and readjustments of contract or franchise rights as the commission should deem proper. On the face of it, a question of that kind could hardly have been considered without taking some time for it. It was thought when the bill was drawn that would safeguard it, but in order to quiet the fears of anybody, it was deemed wise to make it explicit, and the amendment will simply make more certain what was already certain in the bill, that is all."

The Governor said he did not know of any further amendments contemplated but that a bill of the importance of his measure was bound to receive a lot of discussion. With regard to any trouble the Senate might be having in whipping the State local Volstead act into shape, the chief executive professed his ignorance. He said that his impression was that the search and seizure provision of the proposed statute was based on the present search and seizure clause of the State Excise law, which he understood required a warrant to make a search of anybody's premises.

McGANNON QUILTS BENCH.

Justice Twice Tried for Murder Compiles With Demand of Bar.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 23.—Judge William H. McGannon, in a statement issued to-day, announced he will resign as Chief Justice of the Municipal Court on or about March 15. The statement was in reply to a resolution adopted by the Cleveland Bar Association last Monday asking him to resign. Judge McGannon recently was acquitted of a second degree murder charge in connection with the death of Harold C. Kamy.

Disabled Shipping Board Vessel Leaving Port.

The Shipping Board steamship Cambridge, operated by the Kerr Steamship Company, reported to have lost her wireless and to be proceeding slowly on account of trouble with her pumps, left Bermuda yesterday and is expected to put into New Orleans without encountering further difficulty. The Cambridge left Punta Del Gorda, P. R., at 10:30 p. m.

"HI" ON THE JOB STARTS WITH USUAL JOHNSON FIREWORKS

(Continued From First Page.)

It is unconstitutional and will not hold."

"Have you a definite plan of legal action against it?" was the next question.

"We have," replied the Senator from California, "but it would not be good policy to reveal it at this time. We have got to go to the bat and do the very best we can in the present situation, which is a very serious one."

"It has more than a local aspect. It not only concerns the people of the city and State of New York, but the country at large. If the traction programme can be put over here there is no reason why it cannot be put over elsewhere. In San Francisco the fight for a 5-cent fare was a popular one. Here it appears to be the reverse, to judge from the attitude of the shirt front press."

The Senator said municipal ownership had proved its worth in San Francisco and that he always championed that cause.

"Do you expect to confer with Gov. Miller?" was asked.

"Thus far I have not been invited, though I would be delighted to meet Gov. Miller, as I am to meet all great men."

Senator Johnson again referred to the far-reaching importance of the traction fight and severely criticized one newspaper in particular for its attitude toward his appointment. He referred to the Times and said:

"The attempt of the New York Times to distort this into a political fight ought to meet with well merited rebuke. This fight against the traction interests does not concern Republicans or Democrats, but all the people. Mayor Hylan and Mr. O'Brien are right in their attitude against the so-called Miller programme, and every person with an ounce of courage or a bit of Americanism in his make up ought to be with the Mayor."

The Senator closed his interview with this assurance: "I am in this fight to stay, and I shall remain in it as long as Mayor Hylan and Corporation Counsel O'Brien will let me. It appears to me because of its nation-wide importance and significance."

Senator Johnson announced that he will go to Albany on Tuesday and will be present the following day when the first hearing on the Miller traction bills will be held there.

At the conclusion of his talk the Senator from California left the City Hall for Corporation Counsel O'Brien's office to start reading the traction contracts.

BRONX DEMOCRATS RETAIN THEIR SEATS

Three Assemblymen Whose Places Were Contested Upheld by Committee and Legislature.

ALBANY, Feb. 23.—Assemblymen Joseph V. McKee, Edward J. Walsh and Thomas J. McDonald, Democrats of the Bronx, were seated in the Assembly to-day on the report of the sub-committee of the Judiciary Committee which investigated and decided the contests for their seats instituted by their Republican opponents in the last election.

The sub-committee, Chairman Rowe said, would consolidate its hearings in the case of Henry Jager, Socialist, whose eligibility has been questioned this week and will probably report next Monday night. Jager, it is said, is a legal resident of New Jersey and was at the time of his election.

ALERT POLICEMEN GET 4 SOON AFTER ROBBERY ALARMS

Contention of The Evening World and Chicago's Chief Verified in Arrests.

TWO PUT UP FIGHT.

Trapped in Eighth Avenue Clothing Store—Confectionery Is Held Up.

The contention of The Evening World, supported by an interview published last week with Chief of Police Fitzmorris of Chicago that crimes of violence are best to be curbed by keeping the largest possible number of policemen on alert patrol was verified last night by the immediate capture of four men by uniformed policemen after alarms given by the victims of two robberies.

Policeman Patrick Collins and George Van Ethen brought in Frank Buran, 16, No. 127 West 108th Street and James Sullivan, 18, No. 773 Eighth Avenue. Collins had seen figures moving about in the clothing store of Barabam Altman, No. 772 Eighth Avenue. He called Van Ethen and went in with him after telephoning to the West 17th Street Station for help.

After dodging an iron bar hurled at them from behind a bale of clothing, the policemen fired shots into the bale. The men being offered to surrender and then sprang out of the dark into the light of the policemen's flash lamps and fought. They were only subdued on the arrival of reserves from the station. The two youths were arrayed like Broadway masher, and the police believe they had outfitted themselves elsewhere regardless of the expense to the proprietor of another clothing store.

An hour or two before Policemen

Burgess and Ryan of the East 138th Street Station standing at Lexington Avenue and 138th Street heard a police whistle blown at Park Avenue. Running toward the sound they intercepted Richard Shannon, describing himself as a Post Office clerk of No. 1346 Fifth Avenue. Burgess arrested him.

Ryan, running on, saw a man running west on 125th Street, and captured him. The prisoner said he was James Walsh, an ironworker of No. 1461 Amsterdam Avenue.

The policemen found that the whistle had been blown by Leslie V. Lloyd, cashier of a Loft candy store at 125th Street and Park Avenue. Shaw said that two men had entered the store, in which there were about ten customers including three women, and with their hands in the side pockets of their coats as though on hidden revolvers, had forced all the persons present to raise their hands. The intruders then went through the cash register, taking the \$15 it contained and ran out. Lloyd ran to the door and blew his whistle. The prisoners had only \$5 between them and no revolvers. They denied robbing the store. The police believe one of them threw away the remaining \$10 when he saw he was about to be caught.

According to the police records, Shannon, who was for five months a clerk in the General Post Office, and Walsh have both been arrested frequently for minor offenses and two charges of grand larceny are now pending against Walsh. Assistant District Attorney Carlino said he would ask for the highest bail when they were arraigned in court.

GIRL KILLS FATHER BEATING MOTHER

Fifteen-Year-Old Daughter Went to Rescue of Parent With Scout Knife.

(Special to The Evening World.) PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 23.—Elizabeth Mabel Lance, fifteen, told the police to-day that she killed her father, Edgar M. Lance, by stabbing him four times in the chest with a Girl Scout knife when he beat her mother at their home in South Bonall Street last night. She is held on a charge of murder. The mother, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Lance, is detained as a material witness.

Patrolman Lawler, called by a man in the street, found Lance in bed, dead. The mother and the daughter were in the room. He questioned them, and the girl finally said: "I threatened father with the knife when he would not stop beating mother. He let go of her and ran at me and I stabbed him."

Lance was thirty-seven years old.

THE VICTOR COMPANY and LANDAY BROS.

Announce a

New Victrola \$100

Model 80, as illustrated

THIS is the Victor Company's greatest triumph since its action a year and a half ago when it voluntarily cut the prices of Red Seal records down to half—despite the fact that prices of all other commodities were steadily climbing upward.

This public spirited action, like the present announcement of the new \$100 Victrola, is in line with the Victor Company's ideal of keeping the prices of its products

within the reach of everyone. Its enormous output—the largest in the world—enables it always to set prices, quality considered, at the lowest possible level.

Pay Five Dollars Down

Balance in Easy Monthly Payments

Landays, America's largest Victrola dealers, are glad to co-operate on this noteworthy occasion by placing on sale at the very lowest terms the largest stock of these new Victrolas in the city. Each instrument is a master creation—possessing all the exclusive, patented features that have made the Victrola the world's greatest musical instrument.

A Word of Caution

We anticipate a tremendous demand for these new Victrolas. The supply for immediate delivery is limited. And we advise those who wish to be sure of their instruments to come direct to Landays at once!

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